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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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SUBJECT Laundries (Pralnie)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. "In Poland, dry cleaning and dyeing plants are operated by service cooperatives. The number of private dry cleaning plants can be counted on the fingers; there are not many stores or outlets of this kind in Krakow. The cleaning and dyeing plant [redacted] is located in Krakow on Reymies Street. [redacted]
2. "[redacted] never heard of a dry cleaning plant (even private), that picks up or delivers clothes. Clothes are carried to the cleaner in a bundle or valise, and are sometimes accepted; if not, they must be brought back again when clothes for cleaning are being accepted. Accepted clothes are receipted, and payment is made in advance. Almost all State Stores which do not have dry cleaning facilities, send their protective clothes [redacted] to these dry cleaners. The quality of laundering and cleaning work is poor.

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3. "The prices of laundering are approximately as follows:

<u>Washing and Ironing of:</u>	<u>Price in Zlotys</u>
1 sheet	3.00
1 large ticking [1]	4.00
1 pillow case	1.50
1 linen towel	1.20
1 towel	1.50
1 man's shirt	6.00
1 pajamas (pair)	5.00

Dry Cleaning of:

1 winter overcoat	30.00 - 40.00
1 summer topcoat	20.00 - 30.00
1 regular jacket	15.00

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The time for dyeing or dry cleaning a coat is about six weeks.

Better cleaning and dyeing is done in private establishments, but there are only about four in Krakow, and these are very expensive.

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4. "Soap costs about Zl. 10.50 per kilogram, and soap powder about Zl. three per kilogram. Washing soda is practically unavailable; it is never available in the stores. During the temporary shortage of soap in 1951, the price of laundry powder rose to Zl. 20.00 per kilogram. In December 1953 soap on the market was soft and relatively worthless. In occasional commissary and private stores some fair quality soap was available in December 1953, but this was only toilet soap, some of which came from overseas packages and was resold without wrappers. Prices were exorbitant.
5. "Laundresses are hard to get in Krakow, since most women work in industry. There are, however, a few from the villages. They make Zl. 30.00 - 50.00, plus board, per day.
6. "To claim clothes which have been dry cleaned or laundered, no identification is necessary unless the receipt has been lost. Usually it takes a little time to claim clothes, because a check is made to ensure that no two people make a claim on the same clothes." [This must apply in a case where the receipt has been lost.]

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